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Geology of the Central Copper River Region, Alaska. By WALTER C. MENDENHALL. (U. S. Geological Survey, Professional Paper No. 41, 1905.) Pp. 133, 20 plates and maps, 11 figures.

The area described lies in the central and northern parts of the copper River Basin—one of the most interesting regions in southern Alaska. It came into prominence in 1898, at the time of the great stampede to the Eldorado of the north. Some of those who overcame the difficulties of getting into the Copper River country were rewarded by finds of considerable copper and gold deposits.

Three great mountain ranges cross the area—the Chugatch, the Wrangell, and the Alaskan. Mount Wrangell itself is an active volcano which constantly gives forth great volumes of smoke and vapors. Mount Sanford, one of a number of extinct volcanoes, is 16,200 feet high—the highest peak in the region. The southern side of the Alaskan range is a great fault scarp, and Mr. Mendenhall believes the whole Copper River valley to be due to a sunken fault block. He also thinks it probable that this sinking was the result of the outpouring of the Wrangell lavas.

Another interesting scientific contribution is the description of 6,000–7,000 feet of Permian strata in the upper Copper River valley. The fauna is much more closely related to that of the great limestones of India than to the fauna of the Mississippi valley Permian. This is probably one of the best developments of marine Permian in the world. E. W. S.

Geology of the Boulder District, Colorado. By N. M. FENNEMAN. (U. S. Geological Survey, Bulletin No. 265, 1905.) Pp. 101, 5 plates, 11 figures.

The principal topic of this report is the gas and oil of the district, but it treats also of the physiography, stratigraphy, structure, geologic history, and its other economic resources. These are: water, building-stone, grindstone, lime, clays, and coal. The area lies at the foot of the Front Range, and has its appropriate topography of plains on the east, and mesas and foothills on the west. The rocks are nearly horizontal sedimentaries on the east, and the upturned edges of the same against the Archean mass on the west. The oil-producing formation is the Pierre. The producing wells are in a narrow north-south belt, which was found to be the area of a monoclinal fold. Shooting of wells was found to have an injurious effect in many cases, the flow of such wells decreasing after the shooting. Thirty-nine thousand barrels of oil were produced in 1903. One gas well furnishes 3,000,000 feet per month. E. W. S.